

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A contents distribution method for distributing digitized contents to plural end users, comprising the steps of:

encrypting and broadcasting contents together with a content related icon and summary information showing a summary of the encrypted contents to the plural end users;

providing decoding information accompanying encrypted contents, each decoding information specific to an end user in the plural end users,

wherein the decoding information determines which encrypted contents among the broadcasted contents can be utilized by the end user;

selecting by the end user, by clicking on the icon and based on review by the end user of the summary information received, at least one of the encrypted content from the broadcasted contents that can be utilized by the end user;

generating a decoding key that decodes the encrypted content from actual decoding information accompanying the encrypted content and end user identifying information;

decoding the encrypted content using the generated decoding key and utilizing of a decrypted content thereof by the end user; and

executing accounting to the end user only if said encrypted content is decrypted and output for printing by the end user.

2-4. (Canceled).

5. (Previously Presented) The contents distribution method according to Claim 1, wherein:

said content includes a document displayed or printed in a page unit; and

said accounting is executed for said page unit.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A contents distribution system that distributes digitized contents to plural end users, comprising:

a distribution device that distributes encrypted contents along with a content related icon and summary information showing a summary of the encrypted contents and list information showing the contents of said encrypted contents, the distribution device further provides decoding information accompanying encrypted contents, each decoding information specific to an end user in the plural end users;

a user terminal that receives encrypted contents distributed by said distribution device, displays summary information only if decoding information accompanies encrypted contents wherein the end user selects, by clicking on the icon and based on review by the end user of the summary information received, at least one encrypted content from the distributed encrypted contents that can be utilized by the end user, generates a decoding key from actual decoding information accompanying the encrypted content and end user identifying information, decodes the encrypted content using the generated decoding key, and generates accounting information only if said encrypted content is successfully decoded and output to a printer;

a central station that collects and totalizes the accounting information generated by said user terminal;

said distribution device encrypts contents provided by a contents provider and generates encrypted contents; and

wherein the list of information is displayed upon decoding of the encrypted contents by the end user.

8-10. (Canceled).

11. (Original) The contents distribution system according to Claim 7, wherein:
said distribution device distributes said encrypted contents by a broadcast.
12. (Original) The contents distribution system according to Claim 7, wherein:
said user terminal comprises:
a data sink that receives encrypted contents distributed from said distribution device;
a data output part that stores encrypted contents received by said data sink, decodes said stored encrypted contents and generates accounting information according to the quantity of utilized said decoded contents; and
a printer that prints contents decoded by said data output part.
13. (Previously Presented) The contents distribution system according to Claim 12, wherein:
said quantity of utilized contents includes the number of pages included in contents printed by said printer.
14. (Original) The contents distribution system according to Claim 7, wherein:
said user terminal comprises:
a data sink that receives encrypted contents distributed from said distribution device; and
a display that stores encrypted contents received by said data sink, decodes and displays said encrypted contents stored and generates accounting information according to the number of pages included in said displayed contents.
15. (Canceled).